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Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know what the recommendation of the Inspector of Local Bodies was in these matters?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I don't remember. I want notice of that question."

Grant of extension of service to the Headmaster of the Municipal High School, Cuddapah.

* 270 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the municipal authorities at Cuddapah got the sanction of the Government before granting an extension of service for the sixth time to the Headmaster of the Municipal High School, Cuddapah; if so, whether the Government will state the reasons that led them to grant such an extension?

A.—No application for sanction was received from the Municipal Council.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the headmaster is continuing as headmaster without sanction having been obtained from the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"After the reply was sent to the Council Office, we received information from the Director of Public Instruction that the present incumbent was reappointed. The Director of Public Instruction also recommended that no action need be taken now and that the Municipal Council may be directed not to extend his term any further. The Government have issued orders accordingly."

Alleged delay in the payment of salaries to school teachers in Malabar and South Kanara Taluk Boards.

* 271 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether complaints have been received by Government or their officers from school teachers employed by taluk boards in Malabar and South Kanara districts regarding undue delay in the payment of their salaries;

(*b*) whether Government have received such complaints from other districts as well;

(*c*) what action Government have taken to insist on local bodies paying the salaries of teachers promptly and regularly; and

(*d*) whether the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has brought to the notice of Government such cases of undue delay in the payment of salaries?

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A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) No complaints have been received by Government. Mention has been made of such delays in the audit reports of certain taluk boards, e.g., Chicacole, Proddattur, Rayachoti and Palladam; and Government have warned these boards against similar delays in future. The Director of Public Instruction recently reported that there has been great delay in the disbursement of salaries to teachers by the Markapur Taluk Board and a report has been called for from that Board.

As regards the Taluk Boards in the Malabar and South Kanara districts it is observed from the audit reports for the year 1929–30 that the Malabar District Board and the Chirakkal Taluk Board had not been disbursing the salaries regularly. The Chirakkal Taluk Board has since been abolished. In reviewing the audit report of the Malabar District Board that body has been asked to see that such delays do not recur.

Access to depressed classes to wells and tanks under local bodies.

* 272 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received information that there are still some wells, tanks, public roads, pathways and schools under local bodies to which access is denied to the depressed classes;

(*b*) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to put a stop to the practice wherever it exists; and

(*c*) whether the local bodies have been warned against the perpetuation of such distinctions on pain of being subjected to punitive measures such as withholding of grants for the purpose of digging wells, tanks, etc.?

A.—(*a*) No case where the depressed classes have been denied access to wells, tanks, public roads and pathways has come to the notice of the Government. In 1929–30 there were 1,508 schools in the Presidency held in places inaccessible to pupils of the depressed classes. Later figures are not available but the number must have been considerably reduced by this time.

(*b*) & (*c*) The questions do not arise in respect of wells, tanks, public roads and pathways. As regards schools, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*c*) of question No. 809 at the meeting of the Council held on 28th March 1931.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" Sir, with reference to the answers given to clauses (*b*) and (*c*), viz., 'The questions do not arise in respect of wells, tanks, public roads and pathways,' may I know why, Sir? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" No, Sir."